

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed August 10, 2006 (the "Office Action"). Claims 1, 13, 25, 26, and 27 have been amended and no claims have been canceled. Therefore, Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8-14, 16, 18, and 20-27 remain in the application of which Claims 1, 13, 25, 26, and 27 are the only independent claims. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action of all pending claims in view of the following remarks.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for conducting a telephone interview on February 21, 2007. In this interview, it was agreed that the *Holt* reference does not teach a reflecting structure having a continuous 360° window. It was further agreed that claims directed to this difference in structure would be supplied in a response to the Final Office Action.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 13-14, 16-17, and 24-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,057,915 to Squire et al. ("*Squire*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,793,958 to Holt et al. ("*Holt*"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the reasons discussed below.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "receiving, using a continuous 360° window, reflected energy from said beam onto a detector having a two-dimensional array of detector elements and, in response, forming a two-dimensional image representing a continuous 360° azimuthal view on the detector." *Holt* does not disclose, teach, or suggest a continuous 360° window for forming a two-dimensional image representing a continuous 360° azimuthal view on the detector. The receiving portion of *Holt* includes a number of windows 20t alternately configured with a number of reflecting wedges 18r over a radial extent of a cylindrical object, which in this particular case is a shell 22 of an intercepting missile 24. (See *Holt*, FIG. 1A). This configuration causes the windows 20t to be discontinuous over a 360° view and thus *Holt* does not disclose, teach, or suggest receiving, using a continuous 360° window, reflected energy from said beam onto a detector having a two-dimensional array of detector elements and, in response, forming a two-dimensional image representing a continuous 360° azimuthal view on the detector.

Squire also does not disclose, teach, or suggest a continuous 360° window for forming a two-dimensional image representing a continuous 360° azimuthal view on the detector. *Squire* only includes a two-dimensional array of detector elements having a relatively narrow azimuthal view angle. To circumvent this problem, *Squire* uses a scanning mirror in order to provide a relatively wide azimuthal view (See *Squire*, column 3, lines 18-32). Thus, *Squire* does not disclose, teach, or suggest receiving, using a continuous 360° window, reflected energy from said beam onto a detector having a two-dimensional array of detector elements and, in response, forming a two-dimensional image representing a continuous 360° azimuthal view on the detector.

Therefore, neither *Squire*, *Holt*, or any combination thereof disclose, teach, or suggest receiving, using a continuous 360° window, reflected energy from said beam onto a detector having a two-dimensional array of detector elements and, in response, forming a two-dimensional image representing a continuous 360° azimuthal view on the detector as claimed in Applicant's Claim 1. Accordingly, Claim 1 is patentable over *Squire* in view of *Holt*. Independent Claims 13, 25, 26, and 27 are patentable for analogous reasons, as are all claims depending therefrom. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

CONCLUSION

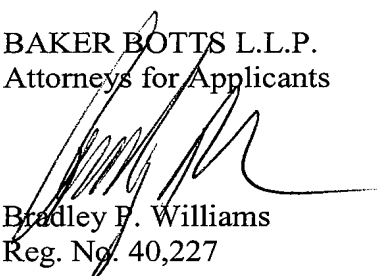
Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other apparent reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending Claims.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present Application may be advanced in any way by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 214-953-6447.

Applicant does not believe that any fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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